

Princeton Aug. 26 '81

Dear Mr. May,

Your note, with the Commonwealth, has been rec'd. Please accept my thanks.

No, don't trouble yourself to make any correction of Mr. Thompson's mistake about me. Did you know how very feeble I am, you would hardly think him far from the truth. And if you make one correction, you should make several. One would infer from his statement, that I ^{pecuniary} never received any aid in my anti-slavery work. You know I often had help, after we established a home and had a daughter to support. Again, the "Friends' School in Lynn was always co-educational. I had the highest grade, made up of both sexes, during the five

years of my service there. But no
more of this. I found, more than
forty years ago, that if I stopped to
correct the misstatements and the
misrepresentations of friends and foes,
I should do little else. I think I
have never corrected one, and it is
rather late to begin now. I think
Mr. Phillips is right — and here you
will agree with me — in attacking.
Little value to the minutiæ of history,
as it is impossible to know the true
from the false in its detail. The
great, underlying facts, will stand out
with sufficient distinctness, to give
the coming years what is necessary
to be known.

You will pardon me if I recipro-
cate your advice to me, to review my
dynamite theory, by asking you to
review your theory of war. I would

suggest that you may get some help
from an article on the 5th P. of the women's
Journal of Aug. 20. But I think
no help so good as that of Mr.
Phillips himself, whom you need all he
says on the subject, for the third or
fourth time, with as little prejudice
as possible.

We spoke of the Professor to whom
Phillips alludes, as being in Congress
more than forty years after Everett;
wondering who it could be. Was it
Patterson or Kelly? one of the two,
if I have not entirely forgotten, was
involved in the Credit Mobilier
frauds.

Alla has taken her father to ride.
We say here they would send greetings.
With kindest regards to your family.

A. K. Foster

Did you know how, as a Quaker,
I was taught to abhor all flattering
titles, and especially that of Reverend
which occurs but twice in the Bible
and then is applied to Beelzebub, you would
not marvel at the superscription
of this title. Of course, I know it
now, the world means, to speak of my
only Minister; yet I love the democratic
idea of calling people only by their
simple names.